## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 TRSE-00 /094 W -------011242 081131Z /14

R 081100Z SEP 77 FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK TO SECSTATE WASHDCC 5966 AMEMBASSY PARIS USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL BANGKOK 19974

UDORN 0147 DTD 071015Z SEP 77 SENT ACTION BANGKOK IMMEDIATE INFO VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE BEING REPEATED TO YOU FOR UR INFO:

CONFIDENTIAL UDORN 0147

E.O. 11652 GDS TAGS: SREF, TH, LA

SUBJECT: NONG KHAI REFUGEE SITUATION

REF: (A) UDORN 0146 (B) VIENTIANE 1262

1. BASED ON CONREP'S CONVERSATIONS WITH IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS SEPTEMBER 7, WE HAVE FOLLOWING TO REPORT REGARDING REFUGEE SITUATION IN NONG KHAI:

A. STATUS OF GROUP OXUNXX REFUGEES REMAINS UNCHANGED.

B. SOURCES IN THA DEUA HAVE TOLD IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS THAT, AS REPORTED IN REFTEL B, SINO-LAO AND VIETNAMESE-LAO DENIED ENTRY AT NONG KHAI SEPTEMBER 3 HAVE RETURNED TO VIENTIANE.

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C. SAME SOURCES HAVE ALSO REPORTED THAT THERE WERE AN ESTPMATED 75 SINO-LAO AND VIETNAMESE-LAO, WITH PERSONAL EFFECTS, GATHERED AT THA DEUA SEPTEMBER 6 HOPING TO CROSS MEKONG RIVER TO NONG KHAI. HOWEVER, NONE OF RIVER TAXIS WERE WILLING TO TAKE THEM ACROSS RIVER. SOURCES

STATED THAT AFTER LONG DAY IN WAIT, GROUP OF 75 RETURNED IN LATE AFTERNOON TO VIENTIANE.

D. NONG KHAI IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS TOLD CONREP 1145 HOURS THAT, TO BEST OF THEIR KNOWLEDGE, THERE WERE NO POTENTIAL REFUGEES WAITING AT THA DEUA TO CROSS RIVER SEPTEMBER 7.

E. CONREP STATES THAT ONE THAI IMMIGRATION OFFICER IS NOW POSTED AT THE BOAT LANDING BELOW NONG KHAI IMMIGRATION BUILDING TO CHECK DOCUMENTS OF PASSENGERS DISEMBARKING FROM RIVER TAXIS.

OFFICER HAS INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO ALLOW ANYONE WITHOUT PROPER DOCUMENTATION LEAVE BOATS.

2. COMMENT: IT WOULD APPEAR THAT NONG KHAI OFFICIALS HAVE SUCCEEDED, FOR THE MOMENT AT LEAST, IN DISCOURAGING LARGE GROUPS OF POTENTIAL REFUGEES FROM ATTEMPTING TO ENTER THAILAND THROUGH THE THA DEUA NONG KHAI BORDER POINTS ROUTE. HOWEVER, WE SUGGEST THAT SOONER OR LATER MOST OF SINO-LAO AND VIETNAMESE-LAO WHO UNSUCCESSFULLY TRIED TO LEAVE LAOS WILL MANAGE, IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER, TO FILTER ACROSS BORDER INTO THAILAND IN FUTURE.

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WHITEHOUSE

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am

Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** Concepts: REFUGEES, BORDER CONTROLS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 08-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANGKO19974
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

**Document Unique ID: 00** 

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS

Errors: N/A **Expiration:** 

Film Number: D770325-0416

Format: TEL From: BANGKOK Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770988/aaaacwat.tel

Line Count: 95 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 807daa4a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EA

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 UDORN 146, 77 VIENTIANE 1262

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 1353851 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: NONG KHAI REFUGEE SITUATION

TAGS: SREF, PBOR, TH, LA To: STATE PARIS

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/807daa4a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009